



May 8, 2017

Guidance for Submitting Comments on the 2016 305(b)/303(d) Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM)

Dear Interested Party,

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is seeking public comment on the Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM) to be used in the 2016 surface water quality assessment. The CALM describes, in detail, the process used to make surface water quality attainment decisions in accordance with state water quality standards. In other words, the CALM explains how the NHDES determines if surface waters are healthy for fish and people.

Surface water quality assessments are required by Sections 305(b) and 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act, which requires each state to prepare a water quality inventory of its surface waters every two years. Section 303(d) mandates that states prepare a list of surface waters that do not meet state water quality standards, and for which comprehensive water quality studies must be prepared to help guide restoration efforts. This list is commonly called the "303(d) List". The 303(d) List of impaired waters is currently available for review and comment.

The document under review is the draft 2016 CALM. The document may be found at <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/swqa/2016/documents/r-wd-17-08.pdf>.

Thank you.



May 8, 2017

SCHEDULE

If you have suggested revisions for the CALM please submit them to the Watershed Management Bureau by Friday, June 23, 2017.

WHAT TO SUBMIT

General comments pertaining to sections of the current CALM are useful but specific recommendations with supporting background information are preferred.

Submittals should include the following:

- ✓ Contact Information:
 - Your name and organization
 - Mailing Address
 - E-mail
 - Phone number
- ✓ Your comments referenced to specific sections of the current CALM.
- ✓ Documentation supporting why you believe that section of the CALM requires the changes suggested.

HOW TO SEND COMMENTS TO NHDES

Submit your comments along with any supporting documentation, to NHDES by mail, fax or E-mail at the addresses shown below.

By mail: Water Quality Data
 New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
 Watershed Management Bureau
 P.O. Box 95
 Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

By fax: Water Quality Data
 603-271-7894

By E-mail: wqdata@des.state.nh.us or visit our website at
 <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/swqa/index.htm>

QUESTIONS? Please call 603-271-8864 (ask for Ken Edwardson)